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Date of Transmission: **04 March 2005**

I hereby certify that the following correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the attention of the Director of the US Patent and Trademark Office on the above date via the following facsimile number: 703-872-9306.

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 to Final Office Action dated 5 January 2005 (6 sheets)

PTO/SB/17 Fee Transmittal Form (1 sheet)

PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form (1 sheet)

Application Number 09/473,953
Confirmation No.: 1668
Filing Date: 29 December 1999
Document Submission Date: 04 March 2005

Art Unit: 2663
Examiner: George, Keith M.
Inventor: Afferton, Thomas S.

Docket: 113523 (1014-086)

Pages: 9

04 Mar 2005

Date

Eden Brown

Name of Certifier



Signature of Certifier

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2663
PATENT
Application # 09/473,953
Attorney Docket # 113523 (1014-086)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAR 04 2005

Applicant(s) : AFFERTON, Thomas S.
Application # : 09/473,953
Confirmation # : 1668
Filed : 29 December 1999
Application Title : FAMILY RING PROTECTION TECHNIQUE
Art Unit # : 2663
Latest Examiner : GEORGE, Keith M.

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

SIR:

In reply to the Office Action mailed on 5 January 2005, the three month shortened statutory period for responding to which expires on 5 April 2005, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted:

03/07/2005 BBONNER 00000010 09473953

PTO/S&P 17 (12-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0551-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Effective on 12/08/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4815).

FEE TRANSMITTAL For FY 2005

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 200.00

Complete If Known

Application Number 09/473,953
Filing Date 29 December 1999
First Named Inventor Afferton, Thomas S.
Examiner Name George, Keith M.
Art Unit 2663
Attorney Docket No. 113523 (1014-086)

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☒ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify):
☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 50-2504 Deposit Account Name: Michael N. Haynes
For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		Fees Paid (\$)
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	0
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Each claim over 20 or, for Reissues, each claim over 20 and more than in the original patent	50	25
Each independent claim over 3 or, for Reissues, each independent claim more than in the original patent	200	100
Multiple dependent claims	360	180

Total Claims 4 - 20 or HP = 0 x Fee (\$)

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20

Indep. Claims 4 - 3 or HP = 1 x 200 = 200

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3

Multiple Dependent Claims

Fee (\$)

Fee Paid (\$)

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets - 100 = Extra Sheets / 50 = 0 (round up to a whole number) x Fee (\$)

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other:

Fees Paid (\$)

0

SUBMITTED BY

Signature *Michael N. Haynes* Registration No. 40,014 Telephone 434-972-9988
Name (Print/Type) Michael N. Haynes

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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